



# ANSWER IT

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## ANSWER CONTRACT FACTOIDS!

**2079 Task Orders  
3.0 Bids/ New Task Order  
\$2.273 B Funded Sales  
\$5.91 B Estimated Value**

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### ***ANSWER Supports Joint Harbor Operations Center To Keep Harbors Secure*** *Ron Heald*

When the Navy decided to field a shore-based integrated Command and Control (C2) system that will provide for the integration of Navy, Coast Guard, Federal, State and Local agencies responsible for Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP), they opted for the experienced contractors available under the ANSWER contract. This is not surprising as the team of GSA client representatives and the dedicated ANSWER industry partners excel at just this type of multi-agency coordination.

The need to keep our harbors safe is critical in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001. Additionally, the need to be able to share information in a coordinated fashion is key to doing this in a cost effective manner. Early next year, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy and the Harbor Police will begin working side by side in a harbor operations center to tighten security and improve monitoring of maritime activity on San Diego Bay. There are multiple uses for harbors, from recreation through commerce. Being able to trade data on the monitoring of each type of activity requires sophisticated data interchange.

The cornerstone of the project is the development of the Joint Harbor Operations Center (JHOC) that will provide around the clock monitoring from Coast Guard headquarters in San Diego. The JHOC provides for a central command and control center to respond to potential AT/FP threats. This center will integrate data from multiple sources including local policing authorities, camera systems, and even underwater detection systems of the Navy. The Coast Guard, the Navy and the local Port Authority are coordinating their efforts and are jointly funding the project.

When you add the selected ANSWER contractor, CSC, and the watchful eyes of GSA's Client Representative Robert Gill and the client representatives, Robert Keller of the Navy Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Test Bed and CDR Fred Wright, Chief, Shore Navigation Section of the USCG, you complete the team for a project anticipated to be replicated throughout many United States ports following successful completion of this project.

### ***A Fond Farewell and a Warm Welcome*** *Anjanette Magante*

Senior Contracting Officer Paul Kennedy leaves the ANSWER GWAC Center on October 17, 2003 to pursue a career change at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in Fort Belvoir, VA. Paul joined the ANSWER team in October 2002 and served as the Safeguard PCO and recently, the Millennia PCO. During his year with the ANSWER team, Paul assisted in conducting and tabulating the Past Performance IV surveys. He also facilitated the transition of the Millennia, Virtual Data Center Support Services, Disaster Recovery Services Program, and Access Certificates for Electronic Services contract vehicles to the ANSWER GWAC Center. Paul will be missed by all for his upbeat personality and sense of humor. Best wishes and good luck, Paul!



As Paul leaves, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to Susan Currey, who will fill Paul's position as the Millennia PCO starting October 20, 2003. Susan joins us from the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA), located in Camp Pendleton, CA. Welcome aboard, Susan!

***DoD Gets Serious on Performance Based Contracting****Ron Heald*

In an apparent move to promote greater use of performance based contracting, DoD has issued an interim rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement section 801(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002. An interim rule is used to implement a change prior to it being formally written into the regulation, in this case the DFARS. The ruling requires DoD to establish and implement a management structure for the procurement of services. The effective date of the rule is October 1, 2003 and comments on the interim rule are required on or before December 1, 2003, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

One provision that has sparked controversy is the prohibition of the acquisition of services through use of a DoD contract or task order that is not performance based, or through any contract or task order that is awarded by an agency other than DoD, unless certain approval requirements are met. With respect to services acquisitions through a contract or task order awarded by an agency other than DoD, the rule requires approval in accordance with department or agency procedures. Specific procedures for obtaining approval will vary among the Army, Navy and Air Force. Each of the three military departments has developed a "Management and Oversight of Acquisition of Services Process" to provide a review structure for services acquisitions. The military departments are working to implement this infrastructure, which will include approval levels for services acquired through another agency's contract.

Placed in context, the interim rule appears to be geared to gaining control over the use of performance based contracting for services by establishing internal DoD approval requirements to manage compliance with the existing FAR Part 37 requirements to use performance-based contracting to the maximum extent practicable. By reviewing all requirements sent outside of DoD, additional control can be gained over the performance based contracting initiative. It is DoD's intent to move to a more strategic and integrated approach to the acquisition of services, according to a policy memorandum issued by the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) on May 31, 2002.

The GWAC Center, Pacific Rim Region has long been active in promoting the use of performance-based contracts through education and training of our GWAC users and continues to facilitate their usage.

***Proposed Alliant GWAC To Have Information Website****Bill Archambeault*

Earlier this year, GSA established the Contract Vehicle Review Board (CVRB) to ensure that GSA's IT contract vehicles are appropriately coordinated and rationalized. The Board was charged with applying a rigorous process to assess the continued value of current GSA IT contract vehicles and to assess whether new GSA IT contract vehicles should be added to meet customer agency needs.

The results of the Board's efforts were published in September 2003. In the report, the Board recommended that "Millennia and ANSWER be merged into one future replacement vehicle which includes the best provisions of both current vehicles." To that end, the GWAC Center Pacific Rim Region is working on the next generation GWAC, to be named **Alliant**. The Board recommended award of Alliant within two years. No new orders will be placed on the ANSWER or Millennia contracts six months after award of the new contract but ongoing task orders will continue under the terms of the contract, until the contract expires.

The first order of business for the GWAC Center is to submit the Alliant Business Case to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. Once OMB approval is received, the GWAC Center will fully engage the procurement cycle for Alliant. A website is being constructed to keep the public informed of our progress; it will be periodically updated to ensure all parties have the most current information. Future pages on the site will include What's New, Upcoming Events, an Interested Parties List (for networking and teaming opportunities), RFP Sections, Questions and Answers, and a Forms Library. The expected rollout for the website is the week of November 3, 2003 at URL [www.gsa.gov/alliant](http://www.gsa.gov/alliant).

***October Events*****Date:** 10/6-10/10**Location:** New York**Event:** FC Conference**Date:** 10/20-10/24**Location:** Honolulu, HI**Event:** Solutions Edu - PBSOW Training**Date:** 10/27-10/31**Location:** Tampa, FL**Event:** National CSP Meeting**Date:** 10/28**Location:** FEDSIM**Event:** ANSWER Board Meeting**Date:** 10/29**Location:** FEDSIM**Event:** Millennia Board Meeting***ANSWER POCs***

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